

Marked up original:

34. (amended) A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processor in a computer to perform a data preparation method, comprising:

integrating data from a variety of systemssources using xml and a common schema to support organization processing.

35. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where data is obtained from advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, estimating systems, intellectual property management systems, process management systems, supply chain management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, enterprise resource planning systems (ERP), material requirement planning systems (MRP), quality control systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems, purchasing systems, web site systems, the common schema includes an organization designationInternet, external databases, user input and combinations thereof.

36. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 35 ~~wherein~~³⁴ where the ~~designated organization is a single product, a group of products, a division, a company, a multi-company corporation or a value chain~~data includes historical data, forecast data and combinations thereof.

37. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the ~~common schema includes a data structure~~are transaction data, descriptive data, geospatial data, text data, linkage data and combinations thereof.

38. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 37~~34~~ where the ~~data structure is a hierarchy~~schema includes an organization designation.

39. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 ~~where~~³⁸ wherein the ~~common schema includes~~designated organization is a data dictionarysingle product, a group of products, a division, a company, a multi-company corporation or a value chain.

40. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 39~~34~~ where the common schema includes a data dictionary defines standard data attributes from the group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure and time periods~~structure~~.

41. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34~~40~~ where the data structure is obtained from the group consisting of ~~advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, intellectual property management systems, process management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems and purchasing systems~~a hierarchy.

42. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 wherein ~~at least a portion of the common schema includes a data is from the Internet or an external database~~dictionary.

43. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34~~42~~ where the data preparation method further comprises ~~converting~~dictionary defines standard data to match attributes from the common schema~~group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure and time periods~~.

44. (amended) ~~A~~The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the data preparation method, comprising:
integrating further comprises converting data from a variety of systems using xml and
to match the common schema.

45. (amended) The ~~method~~computer readable medium of claim 44~~34~~ where the ~~common schema includes an organization designation~~processing supports the creation of tools for organization management including analytical models, performance information, prioritized lists of changes that will optimize one or more aspects of

organization financial performance, management reports, a system for automated equity trading and data-structure combinations thereof.

~~46. (amended) The method of claim 45 wherein the designated organization is a single product, a group of products, a division, a company, a multi-company corporation or a value chain.~~
(amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the data preparation method is completed on a continuous basis.

~~47. (amended) The method of claim 44 where the common schema includes a data dictionary.~~
(amended) A data integration system, comprising:

networked computers each with a processor having circuitry to execute instructions;
a storage device available to each processor with sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processors to:

integrate data from a variety of sources in accordance with a common schema to support organization analysis, management and reporting.

~~48. (amended) The method of claim 47 where the data dictionary defines standard data attributes from the group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure and time periods.~~
(amended) The system of claim 47 where data is obtained from advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, estimating systems, intellectual property management systems, process management systems, supply chain management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, enterprise resource planning systems (ERP), material requirement planning systems (MRP), quality control systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems, purchasing systems, web site systems, the Internet, external databases, user input and combinations thereof.

~~49. (amended) The method of claim 44 where data is obtained from the group consisting of advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, intellectual property management systems, process~~

~~management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems and purchasing systems.~~ (amended) The system of claim 47 where the data includes historical data, forecast data and combinations thereof.

50. ~~(amended) The method of claim 44 wherein at least a portion of the data is from the Internet or external databases.~~ (amended) The system of claim 47 where the data are transaction data, descriptive data, geospatial data, text data, linkage data and combinations thereof.

51. ~~(amended) The method~~ system ~~of claim 44~~ 47 ~~where the data preparation method further comprises converting and storing data in accordance with the common schema.~~ includes an organization designation.

52. ~~(amended) A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processors in a plurality of computers connected via a network to perform the data preparation method of claim 44.~~ (amended) The system of claim 51 wherein the designated organization is a single product, a group of products, a division, a company, a multi-company corporation or a value chain.

53. ~~(amended) A computer implemented organization~~ The system, comprising: ~~networked computers each with~~ of claim 47 where the common schema includes a processor having circuitry to execute instructions; a storage device available to each processor with sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processors to:

~~transform data from a variety of systems into a probabilistic model that quantifies the value contribution of elements of value to a value of an enterprise by category; and capturing proposed changes in element value drivers, using the element impact model to simulate the impact of the proposed changes on enterprise financial performance; and displaying the result of the simulation using a paper document or electronic display~~ structure.

54. (amended) ~~A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processors in a plurality of computers connected via a network to perform an organization method, comprising:~~(amended) The system of claim 53 where the data structure is a hierarchy.

~~integrating data from a variety of systems into models that quantify element of value impact on a value of an enterprise by category of value;
determining a value for each of the categories of value;
combining the category values and element impacts to determine a value for each element of value; and
displaying the value of the enterprise and the value of each of the elements of value using a paper document or electronic display.~~

55. (amended) ~~The computer readable medium~~system of claim 54 wherein the enterprise ~~is~~common schema includes a single product, a group of products, a division or a companydata dictionary.

56. (amended) ~~The computer readable medium of claim 54 where data is obtained from the group consisting of advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, intellectual property management systems, process management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems and purchasing systems.~~(amended) The system of claim 55 where the data dictionary defines standard data attributes from the group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure and time periods.

57. (amended) ~~The computer readable medium~~system of claim 54~~7~~ where the elements of value are selected from the group consisting of relationships, brands, channels, customers, employees, intellectual property, partners, processes, production equipment and vendorscommon schema includes a metadata standard.

58. (amended) ~~The computer readable medium of claim 54 wherein the models that quantify element impact are from the group consisting of neural networks; regression~~

~~trees; projection pursuit regression; generalized additive model (GAM); redundant regression network; Bayes Regression, linear regression; support vector method; stepwise regression; entropy minimization, minimum message length (MML), Markov, LaGrange, Bayesian and path analysis.~~(amended) The system of claim 57 where the data metadata standard is XML or the Metadata Coalition specification.

~~59. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 54 where the categories of value are selected from the group consisting of current operation, real options and market sentiment.~~(amended) The system of claim 47 where the data preparation system converts data to match the common schema.

~~60. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 54 wherein the contribution of each element of value to a value of the enterprise is determined by its net impact on the categories of value and the other elements of value for the enterprise.~~(amended) The system of claim 47 where the organization analysis, management and reporting further comprises the development of: analytical models, performance information, prioritized lists of changes that will optimize one or more aspects of organization financial performance, management reports, a system for automated equity trading and combinations thereof.

~~61. (new) The system of claim 47 where integration is completed on a continuous basis.~~

~~62. (new) A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processors in a plurality of computers that have been connected via a network to perform an organization management method, comprising:~~
~~integrating data from a variety of sources in accordance with a common schema,~~
~~using at least a portion of said data to create one or more tools for organization management, and~~
~~making the one or more tools available for review.~~

~~63. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where the one or more tools are made available for review using an electronic display, a paper document or combinations thereof.~~

64. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where data is obtained from advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, estimating systems, intellectual property management systems, process management systems, supply chain management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, enterprise resource planning systems (ERP), material requirement planning systems (MRP), quality control systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems, purchasing systems, web site systems, the Internet, external databases, user input and combinations thereof.

65. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where the data includes historical data, forecast data and combinations thereof.

66. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where the data includes transaction data, descriptive data, geospatial data, text data, linkage data and combinations thereof.

67. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where an organization is a single product, a group of products, a division, a entire company, a multi company corporation or a value chain.

68. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where the common schema defines common attributes from the group consisting of data structure, organization designation, metadata standard and data dictionary.

69. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 68 where the data dictionary defines standard data attributes from the group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, organization designations, time periods and units of measure.

70. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 68 where the data structure is a hierarchy.

71. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 68 where the metadata standard is XML or the Metadata Coalition specification.

72. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 where the one or more tools for organization management include analytical models, management reports, performance information, lists of changes that will optimize one or more aspects of organization financial performance, a system for automated equity trading and combinations thereof.

73. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where analytical models include component of value models, market value models, network models, optimization models, simulation models and combinations thereof.

74. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where the component of value models are causal predictive models.

75. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where the component of value models quantify the impact of one or more enterprise on organization revenue, expense or capital change.

76. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 75 where an enterprise is a single product, a group of products, a division or a company.

77. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 wherein the component of value models are from the group consisting of neural network; regression, generalized additive; support vector method, entropy minimization, Markov, Bayesian, multivalent and path analysis models.

78. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where the market value model quantifies the relationship between organization market value and the combination of the current operation, real option and market sentiment values for the organization by enterprise.

79. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 78 where market value models forecast future organization market value.

80. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 79 where the future market value of organization equity is forecast by removing the forecast value of organization debt from the forecast of future organization market value.

81. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where network models are enterprise network models or organization network models.

82. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where network models are neural nets.

83. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 81 where enterprise network models quantify the interrelationship between the active elements of value and one or more aspects of enterprise financial performance.

84. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 83 where the one or more aspects of enterprise financial performance are enterprise revenue, enterprise expense, enterprise capital change, enterprise current operation value, enterprise market value and combinations thereof.

85. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 83 where the active elements of value are alliances, brands, channels, customers, customer relationships, employees, equipment, intellectual property, partnerships, processes, production equipment, vendors, vendor relationships and combinations thereof.

86. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 81 where organization network models quantify the interrelationship between the one or more enterprises within the organization and one or more aspects of organization financial performance.

87. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 86 where the one or more aspects of organization financial performance are organization revenue, organization expense, organization capital change, organization current operation value, organization market value and combinations thereof.

88. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 86 where an enterprise is a single product, a group of products, a division or a company.

89. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where the optimization models identify changes that will optimize one or more aspects of organization financial performance.

90. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 89 where the one or more aspects of organization financial performance are organization revenue, organization expense, organization capital change, organization current operation value, organization market value and combinations thereof.

91. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 89 where the identified changes are changes to alliance value drivers, brand value drivers, channel value drivers, customer value drivers, customer relationship value drivers, employee value drivers, equipment value drivers, intellectual property value drivers, partnership value drivers, process value drivers, production equipment value drivers, vendor value drivers, vendor relationship value drivers, sales of organization equity, purchases of organization equity or combinations thereof.

92. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 89 where a Monte Carlo model is used to identify the changes that will optimize an aspect of organization financial performance

93. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 89 where genetic algorithms or multi-criteria optimization models are used to identify the changes that will optimize two or more aspects of organization financial performance

94. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 73 where the simulation models forecast the net impact of the proposed changes on one or more aspects of organization financial performance.

95. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 94 where the net impact on one or more aspects of financial performance is the impact of the change on the one or more aspects of financial performance net of any impact on other elements of value.

96. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 94 where the simulation model is a Monte Carlo model.

97. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 94 where the simulation model is a Markov model.

98. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 94 where the proposed changes are changes to alliance value drivers, brand value drivers, channel value drivers, customer value drivers, customer relationship value drivers, employee value drivers, equipment value drivers, intellectual property value drivers, partnership value drivers, process value drivers, production equipment value drivers, vendor value drivers, vendor relationship value drivers, sales of organization equity, purchases of organization equity or combinations thereof.

99. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where the management reports detail the current organization value, prior organization value, future organization value, the change in organization value over time and combinations thereof.

100. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 99 where the elements of value include alliances, brands, channels, customers, customer relationships, employees, equipment, intellectual property, partnerships, processes, production equipment, vendors, vendor relationships and combinations thereof.

101. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where the management reports detail organization value and changes in organization value by element of value and real option by enterprise.

102. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where the management reports detailing changes in organization value over time are presented in movie mode.

103. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where performance information includes component valuations, current operation valuations, element composite variables, element performance indicators, element relative contributions, element valuations, element value drivers, enterprise valuations, option discount rates, real option valuations, relative element strength and combinations thereof.

104. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where the elements are alliances, brands, channels, customers, customer relationships, employees, equipment, intellectual property, partnerships, processes, production equipment, vendors, vendor relationships and combinations thereof

105. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where performance information is developed for one or more specified points in time within a sequential series of points in time.

106. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where changes in performance information are tracked over time.

107. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where valuations quantify net impact on organization financial performance and are completed using the organization cost of capital.

108. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where element performance indicators quantify element of value impact on one or more aspects of enterprise financial performance.

109. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where element performance indicators are selected from the group consisting of item variables and averages, patterns, ratios, summaries, trends, totals, rolling averages, rolling totals, time lagged data, time lagged ratios, time lagged trends, time lagged patterns, time lagged summaries and time lagged trends derived from item variables.

110. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where item variable data is the numeric and date data associated with an element of value that contains one or more items.

111. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 wherein item variable data is obtained from advanced financial systems, basic financial systems, alliance management systems, brand management systems, customer relationship management systems, channel management systems, estimating systems, intellectual

property management systems, process management systems, supply chain management systems, vendor management systems, operation management systems, enterprise resource planning systems (ERP), material requirement planning systems (MRP), quality control systems, sales management systems, human resource systems, accounts receivable systems, accounts payable systems, capital asset systems, inventory systems, invoicing systems, payroll systems, purchasing systems, web site systems, the Internet, external databases, user input and combinations thereof.

112. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where element value drivers are element performance indicators that are causal to changes in one or more aspects of enterprise financial performance.

113. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where a series of models are used to identify the element value drivers.

114. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 wherein a neural net model selects an initial set of element performance indicators and an induction algorithm refines the selection and identifies the element value drivers.

115. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where composite variables are mathematical or logical combinations of element value drivers.

116. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where composite variables summarize element impact on an aspect of enterprise financial performance.

117. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where vectors are mathematical or logical combinations of element value drivers and composite variables that summarize element impact on an aspect of enterprise financial performance.

118. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where element relative contributions quantify relative element of value impacts on an aspect of organization financial performance by enterprise.

119. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 118 where the element of value impact on an aspect of enterprise financial performance is the impact on the aspect of organization financial performance net of any impact on other elements of value.

120. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 118 where the element impact on an aspect of organization financial performance is determined by one or more predictive models.

121. (new) The method of claim 118 where element value drivers, composite variables or vectors are used as inputs to the predictive model that identifies relative element of value contributions to an aspect of organization financial performance by enterprise and the output weights from the predictive model are used to determine relative element contribution by enterprise.

122. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where element valuations are the sum of element contributions to each category of value present in the organization.

123. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 122 where the categories of value are current operation, real option, market sentiment and combinations thereof.

124. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where the method used for calculating element valuations is determined in part by the level of interaction between elements of value.

125. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 where element valuations are calculated by summing the element of value contribution to each enterprise in the organization.

126. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 125 where the element of value contribution to each enterprise current operation includes the product of the relative contribution of each element of value to each component of value and the capitalized value of each component of value.

127. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where the performance information includes the identification of element of value characteristics that are causal to changes in one or more aspects of organization financial performance.

128. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 wherein relative element strength is determined using data envelopment analysis.

129. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 wherein option discount rates are determined as a function of relative element strength.

130. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 103 wherein the real option values are determined using dynamic programming, binomial algorithms, neural network algorithms or Black Scholes algorithms.

131. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where the lists identify changes that will optimize organization revenue, organization expense, organization capital change, organization current operation value, organization market value and combinations thereof.

132. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 131 where changes are listed in capital efficiency order.

133. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 72 where equity trading is completed when the value of organization market sentiment is negative.

134. (new) The computer readable medium of claim 62 that learns the relative importance of the different elements of value, categories of value and enterprises in determining organization financial performance.

REMARKS

35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection of Claim

In the May 23, 2003 office action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because it is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Because the instant application does not have an active claim 1, the Examiner was contacted to determine which claim he intended to reject under this section. On August 6, 2003 the Examiner advised the Applicant in a phone message that because the instant application has no active claim 1 this rejection was withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection of Claim

In the May 23, 2003 office action, claims 34 - 40, 42 - 48 and 50 - 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 because they are described in U.S. Patent 6,332,163 (hereinafter Bowman-Amuah) that matured from application 09/387,642 filed September 1, 1999. The Applicant traverses this objection by noting that the language contained in the referenced application does not describe the invention described in claims 34 - 40, 42 - 48 and 50 - 52. Tables 1 and 2 (see below) provides a point by point rebuttal to the assertions regarding the alleged prior art citations in Bowman-Amuah.

Table 1

| Original Claims | Cited Reference in 6,332,163 | Rebuttal |
|---|--|--|
| 34. (amended) A computer readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein, which when executed cause the processor in a computer to perform a data preparation method, comprising: integrating data from a variety of systems using xml and a common schema. | a) Columns 41 & 42 lines 5 through 30 - discusses two part xml document format, use of xml documents/parsers and xml standards (like SMIL) for preparing different types of data; | a) cited reference does not mention data integration, a common schema or an organization designation; |
| 35. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the common schema includes an organization designation. | b) Column 52 line 45 - discusses a security component to prevent unauthorized users from accessing the system; and c) Column 281 lines 50 through 55 - mentions the fact that program objects can be developed in a way that minimizes the need for re-programming when the schema for a single data base changes | b) cited reference does not mention data integration, a common schema, xml or an organization designation; and c) cited reference does not mention data integration, xml, a common schema or an organization designation. |

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| 36. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 35 wherein the designated organization is a single product, a group of products, a division, a company, a multi-company corporation or a value chain. | a) Column 3, line 65 references FIG 45 that shows traditional silo systems vs. an architecture based organization system; and b) Column 4, line 5 references FIG. 48 that show a workcell perspective and illustrate a business/technology inter-relationship | a) cited reference describes types of systems and does not mention types of organizations; and b) cited reference describes types of systems and does not mention types of organizations |
| 37. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the common schema includes a data structure. 38. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 37 where the data structure is a hierarchy. | Column 14 line 5 – discusses an application framework, | a) cited reference does not mention a common schema, a common data structure or a hierarchy* |
| 39. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the common schema includes a data dictionary. | Column 4, line 30 references FIG. 58 that illustrates storing attribute values and names as part of a system for preventing unauthorized processing | a) cited reference does not mention a common schema or integration in accordance with a data dictionary |
| 40. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 39 where the data dictionary defines standard data attributes from the group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure and time periods. | Column 4, lines 30 – 45 reference: a) FIG. 58 (see above), b) FIG 59 that illustrate the integration of processing steps, c - f) FIG 60 – 63 illustrate comparing transaction attributes against an established dictionary to identify exceptions or change HashMap attribute values | a - f) cited references do not mention account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure or time periods. |
| 42. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 wherein at least a portion of the data is from the Internet or an external database. | Column 42, line 45 – mentions the use of web browsing and browsers and the fact that a separate web browser may not be around for a long time | cited reference does not mention an external database or data integration from an external database or the Internet |
| 43. (amended) The computer readable medium of claim 34 where the data preparation method further comprises converting data to match the common schema. | Column 4 line 55 references FIG. 66 which illustrates communication between two systems using a common generic format to relay metadata information | cited reference does not mention data integration or conversion to match metadata format or common schema |

Table 2

| Original Claims | Cited Reference in 6,332,163 | Rebuttal |
|--|--|--|
| <p>44. (amended) A data preparation method, comprising: integrating data from a variety of systems using xml and a common schema.</p> <p>45. (amended) The method of claim 44 where the common schema includes an organization designation and data structure.</p> | <p>a) Columns 41 & 42 lines 5 through 30 - discusses two part xml document format, use of xml documents/parsers and xml standards (like SMIL) for preparing different types of data;</p> <p>b) Column 52 line 45 - discusses a security component to prevent unauthorized users from accessing the system; and</p> <p>c) Column 281 lines 50 through 55 - mentions the fact that program objects can be developed in a way that minimizes the need for re-programming when the schema for a single data base changes</p> | <p>a) cited reference does not mention data integration, a common schema or an organization designation;</p> <p>b) cited reference does not mention data integration, a common schema, xml or an organization designation; and</p> <p>c) cited reference does not mention data integration, xml, a common schema or an organization designation.</p> |
| <p>46. (amended) The method of claim 45 wherein the designated organization is a single product, a group of products, a division, a company, a multi-company corporation or a value chain.</p> | <p>a) Column 3, line 65 references FIG 45 that shows traditional silo systems vs. an architecture based organization system; and</p> <p>b) Column 4, line 5 references FIG. 48 that show a workcell perspective and illustrate a business/technology inter-relationship</p> | <p>a) cited reference describes types of systems and does not mention types of organizations; and</p> <p>b) cited reference describes types of systems and does not mention types of organizations</p> |
| <p>47. (amended) The method of claim 44 where the common schema includes a data dictionary</p> | <p>Column 4, line 30 references FIG. 58 that illustrates storing attribute values and names as part of a system for preventing unauthorized processing</p> | <p>a) cited reference does not mention a common schema or data integration</p> |
| <p>48. (amended) The method of claim 47 where the data dictionary defines standard data attributes from the group consisting of account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure and time periods.</p> | <p>Column 4, lines 30 - 45 reference:</p> <p>a) FIG. 58 (see above),</p> <p>b) FIG 59 that illustrate the integration of processing steps,</p> <p>c - f) FIG 60 - 63 illustrate comparing transaction attributes against an established dictionary to identify exceptions or change HashMap attribute values</p> | <p>a - f) cited references do not mention account numbers, components of value, currencies, elements of value, units of measure or time periods.</p> |

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| 50. (amended) The method of claim 44 wherein at least a portion of the data is from the Internet or external databases. | Column 42, line 45 – mentions the use of web browsing and browsers and the fact that a separate web browser may not be around for a long time | cited reference does not mention an external database or data integration from an external database or the Internet |
| 51. (amended) The method of claim 44 where the data preparation method further comprises converting and storing data in accordance with the common schema. | Column 4 line 55 references FIG. 66 which illustrates communication between two systems using a common generic format to relay metadata information | cited reference does not mention data integration or conversion to match metadata format or common schema |

In the May 23, 2003 office action, the Examiner indicated that Bowman-Amuah described the integration of data for an advanced financial system. The Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assessment. The system described in Bowman-Amuah generally relates to transaction processing which is more typically associated with basic financial systems as discussed in the instant application. For example, the cited reference (column 8, lines 25 - 30 which refers to FIG. 153) illustrates the completion of a share purchase transaction which would normally be completed and monitored using a basic financial system. It is also important to note that Bowman-Amuah does not describe the use of the XML or the Metadata Coalition Specification as a metadata standard for the processing described therein.

The Examiner has already noted that the cited reference only processes data associated with one type of system. The cited portions of Bowman-Amuah describe a system for processing data for this single system from multiple sources when the data has been prepared in accordance with a pre-defined format. The cited references in Bowman-Amuah do not describe the integration or conversion of data. In fact, Bowman-Amuah takes the opposite approach as transactions that do not meet the rigid, predefined criteria are rejected as part of system processing. The cited references also fail to describe: integration of data from one or many sources; integration of data from one or many sources using a metadata standard, integration of data from one or many sources using xml data standards, using a data dictionary to guide integration from one or many sources, the types of attributes that are included in a data dictionary, the type of metadata standard that is being used, a hierarchical data structure and the type of organization that would be supported. In short, the cited references in Bowman-Amuah do not describe any of the methods, systems or medium of the claimed invention.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejection of Claim

In the May 23, 2003 office action, claims 41 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 because they would be obvious given the prior art. The prior art cited by the Examiner was Bowman-Amuah and the Examiner's stated opinion that receiving data related to different groups of systems is old and well known in the art of the transmission of data. The relevance of this opinion to the instant application is not clear. Applicant traverses this rejection by noting that Bowman-Amuah is not a valid prior art reference (for the reasons detailed above). As a result, the Examiner has failed to identify a single example of relevant prior art and has not established the prima facie case for obviousness that is required to substantiate a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

In the May 23, 2003 office action, claims 53 - 60 are similarly rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 because they would be obvious given the prior art. The prior art cited by the Examiner was Bowman-Amuah and the Examiner's statement that transforming data from a variety of systems into a probabilistic model that quantifies the value contribution of elements of value to a value of an enterprise by category; capturing proposed changes in element value drivers, using the element impact model to simulate the impact of the proposed changes on enterprise financial performance; and displaying the result of the simulation using a paper document or electronic display is old and well known in the art. The Examiner also repeats one of the apparent errors noted previously by claiming that Bowman-Amuah describes the different types of organizations and expresses unsupported opinions regarding elements of value, predictive models, categories of value and the use of quantified element impacts for determining element values. The Applicant traverses the 35 U.S.C. § 103 rejections by noting that Bowman-Amuah is not a valid prior art reference (for the reasons detailed above). As a result, the Examiner has failed to identify a single example of relevant prior art and has not established the prima facie case for obviousness that is required to substantiate the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Summary/Conclusion

The Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the present application as amended herewith.

Reservation of Rights

The Applicant hereby explicitly reserves the right to present the modified claims for re-examination in their original format. The modification of the pending claims to expedite allowance of the instant application is not to be construed as a surrender of subject matters covered by the claims before their modification.


Payment Enclosed

The Applicant has enclosed payment for the claims added to the instant application. The payment amount was calculated as shown below.

| | Current Claims | Fee | Original Payment | Fee Due |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|---------|
| Basic Fee | - | \$375 | | |
| Independent Claims | 3 | 0 X \$42 = \$0 | | |
| Total Claims | 104 | 84 X \$9 = \$756 | | |
| Total | | \$1,131 | \$872 | \$259 |

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 8/15/2003



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